

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 2 to 4 (previously cancelled).

Claims 5 to 15 (currently cancelled).

Claim 16 (currently added)

A method of allowing consolidation of stratified architecture of epidermis and insuring the improvement of the mechanical properties of the skin without inducing any proliferation of the cells, in a warm-blooded animal comprising applying on the parts of the body of a warm-blooded animal in need thereof susceptible to showing aging, an effective amount of a topical composition containing an amount of an extract of *Padina pavonica* effective to promote the maturation of *Keratinocytes*.

Claim 17 (currently added)

The method of claim 16 wherein the extract of *Padina pavonica* is produced by macerating the algae in the solvent to be evaporated.

Claim 18 (currently added)

The method of claim 16 wherein the crude extract resulting from the evaporation of the solvent, is titrated and incorporated into a formulation.

Claim 19 (currently added)

The method of claim 16 wherein the effective amount of the active extract of *Padina pavonica* ranges from 0.1 to 200 g per kg of the composition.

Claim 20 (currently added)

The method of claim 18 wherein the crude extract is used after titration of such or diluted in an inert cosmetic vehicle.

Claim 21 (currently added)

The method of claim 18 wherein the crude extract is incorporated in an excipient or a vehicle suitable for the realization of cosmetic compositions.

Claim 22 (currently added)

The method of claim 16 wherein the topical composition is in the form of creams, suspensions, emulsions of the W/O, O/W or Si/W types, of gels, of pastes, or pomades or powders.

Claim 23 (currently added)

The method of claim 16 wherein the concentration of extract of *Padina pavonica* in the cosmetic composition is such that the cosmetic composition contains from 0.1 to 200 g of *Padina* extract per kg of the composition.

Claim 24 (currently added)

The method of claim 16 n which a preparation of algae extract of the family of *Dictyotales* is used in a culture medium to increase the maturation of *Keratinocytes*.

Claim 25 (currently added)

The method of claim 16 wherein the titrate of 200,000 active units of the extract of *Padina* is defined in that 20 µl of crude extract is at least 50% of the synthetic activity of glycosaminoglycans of 200,000 fibroblasts.